

REMARKS

Claims 1, and 3-30 are pending after entry of this amendment. Claims 1-18 were amended herein. Claims 19-30 were added herein. Claim 2 was cancelled herein. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks submitted herein.

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, and 17. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaisle et al. (U.S. 4,473,613) in view of Moroff et al. (U.S. 3,853,594). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaisle et al. (U.S. 4,473,613). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim objections

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, and 17. The phrases that the Examiner noted as not further limiting of the claims were removed from the claims and put into dependent claims where appropriate. The claims that referred to "preceding claim" were also corrected. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw these objections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaisle et al. (U.S. 4,473,613) in view of Moroff et al. (U.S. 3,853,594). Claims 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaisle et al. (U.S. 4,473,613). Although these rejections have not been raised with respect to the newly amended claims, they will be addressed to the extent applicable.

Amended claims 1, and 3-18, as well as newly added claims 19-30 all require the paper to have a weight of at least 15 grams per square meter but not greater than 60 grams per square meter. Applicant respectfully asserts that neither Jaisle nor Moroff teach or suggest a paper, or a method of making a paper having at least this characteristic.

Jaisle teaches the formation of a decorative laminate that includes at least a saturating kraft paper core and a decorative paper (column 2, lines 55-65). The kraft paper sheet used in

Jaisle has a base weight ranging from about 120 to 180 g/m² (column 4, lines 5-6). The decorative paper has a base weight ranging from about 16 to 160 g/m² (column 4, lines 39-40). Therefore, the laminate of Jaisle would have a paper weight of from about 136 to 340 g/m², much higher than the claimed paper weight.

Similarly, Moroff discloses a paper having a base weight of about 200 to 220 g/m² (column 5, lines 61-63; column 6, lines 40-41, and 63-65).

Therefore, the paper weight disclosed or suggested by Jaisle, Moroff, or the combination thereof is much higher than that of the claimed subject matter. Applicant was unexpectedly able to overcome the many disadvantages, noted in the specification at page 2, lines 22-27, by use of the claimed invention.

Because neither Jaisle, Moroff, nor the combination thereof discloses or suggests a paper having at least the claimed characteristics, the pending claims are not rendered obvious thereby. Applicant respectfully requests, based on the amendments and comments offered herein, that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn.

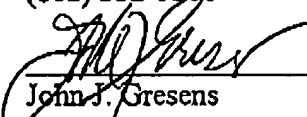
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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